

Saguache County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Tuesday, March 11, 2008 with the following present:

Sam Pace, Chairman
Linda Joseph, Vice Chairman
Mike Spearman, Commissioner
Wendi Maez, Co-Administrator
Lyn Zimmer, Co-Administrator
Melinda Myers, Secretary and Clerk to the Board

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pace at 9:05 A.M.

Under Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:

1. Deleted report from the Planning Commissions – will be rescheduled.

Joseph moved to approve the agenda as amended. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Reading and approval of minutes:

Joseph moved to approve the minutes of March 4, 2008 as amended. Spearman seconded motion. The vote was three ayes.

Review of Mail:

1. **Charles S. Richmond** Forest Supervisor Gunnison Ranger District sent a letter to inform the BOCC that he signed a supplemental Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Perfecto Creek Timber Sale Environmental Assessment located on the Gunnison Ranger District. Mr. Richmond has also decided to add cutting Unit 5 into the project area and to amend the BUMG Forest Plan. (3/5/08)
2. **Bernadette Myers** Office Manager United Country Real Estate, sent copy of recent advertisement that was published in the SLV Life Styles paper pertaining to Iris. This property is also in the local MLS and United Country's many advertising tools, plus Advanced Access. (3/6/08) Spearman suggested that advertising should happen outside of the Valley, administration will draft a letter.
3. **The Colorado Forestry Association** sent a Registration form for Forests Forever that will be held in Golden April 19, 2008 from 9a.m. to 4p.m. 3/6/08)
4. **Rick Hanger** Housing Development Manager State of Colorado Division of Housing sent a letter thanking Mike Spearman for the opportunity to discuss the Colorado Division of Housing Statewide Housing Needs Assessment Project at the SLV County Commissioners Association on February 25. The completion of this project for the San Luis Valley will provide important information to local governments as they plan for the future. (3/7/08)
5. **Patricia Beaver** Secretary State of Colorado Department of Natural Resources Oil & Gas Conservation Commission sent a **Notice of Hearing**, Cause NO.1,

Docket NO 0803-GA-03 to be held Monday, March 31, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. in Denver. (3/7/08)

6. **The Mosca-Hooper Conservation District** will be sponsoring a Weed Conference on March 19, 2008 at the Alamosa Recreation Center from 8:00 a.m.-2:45 p.m.
7. **Michael D. Wisdom**, Executive Director San Luis Valley Development Resources Group sent a letter requesting the 2008 funding attached is an invoice. (3/10/08)
8. **Sandi Cunningham** sent a thank you card for the plaque that she was given for her years of service. (3/10/08)
9. **The Upper Arkansas Water Conservancy District** sent a Tentative Agenda for the Board of Directors' Meeting to be held on March 13, 2008 at 1:30 p.m. in Salida. (3/10/08)
10. **Lexam/Oil & Gas Letters**
Benjamin Byer Crestone
Judith Diane Short Executive Board White Jewel Mt. Buddhist, Crestone
Catherine Alelyunas, Crestone
Theano & Chuck Lamb, Crestone
Arlo Furst Colorado College
Jo Anne Kiser Crestone
John Molanphy Crestone
San Luis Valley Citizen's Alliance, Crestone

Introduction of Guests: Doug Larsen – Crestone Eagle; Marcus Connely – Town of Saguache Planning Commission; Clem Gasseling; Tom Blunt – County Veterans Officer; Claudia Strijek – Strijek Design; Kenny Bertin.

Commissioners' Reports-Updates of Meetings:

Linda Joseph reported:

- March 4 - Attended the SLV Rural Electric Co-op Focus Group on Global Warming. Key points:
 - The public and lobbyists are pressuring for a leap to renewable, and the co-ops cannot do this and keep costs to customers down.
 - The cost of power provided by solar is seven times that of coal.
 - Existing transmission infrastructure is inadequate to carry the potential loads provided by renewable, requiring major retooling.
 - Many solar renewable sources are prototypes.
 - Current wind generation designs don't work well in most of the Valley.
 - The cost of nuclear is competitive to coal, but the time to permit and construction is 10-15 years.
- SLVREC is focusing on conservation education, to assist consumers in taking action to keep their costs down.
- There will be a conference - New Frontiers in Energy Summit 2008. Friday, March 28, 2008, 7:30 am - 2 pm, in Denver. Co-Sponsored by: United States Senator Ken Salazar, Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory, City and County of Denver, and many Colorado businesses and nonprofit organizations. The costs to convert to

renewable for rural communities and coops will be much higher and it will take time for it to equalize.

- March 6 - Attended the Master Plan public forum and potluck in Center.
- March 7 - Attended the Master Plan public forum and potluck in Crestone.

Sam Pace reported:

- Attended CCI Legislative Committee – strongly opposed the election bill which will cost the State millions of dollars. Bill to change the way vacancies in elected offices are filled – from the County Commissioners to the vacated official’s party Central Committee – the Commissioners oppose the change. Supported a net metering bill. Bill on public health revitalization was worked on. Presentation on true costs of second homes was viewed. Initiative on document fees which would go towards affordable housing, also a Community Trust Fund idea was put forward.

Mike Spearman reported:

- March 4 - Attended the SLV Rural Electric Co-op Focus Group on Global Warming.
- Spoke to the seniors at Center High School about local government.
- March 6 - Attended the Master Plan public forum and potluck in Center.
- Spoke at the Ghost Mine Ranch Property Owners meeting to help form a Fire Protection District. They also wanted help with maintenance of roads in the subdivision, and Spearman answered questions.
- Spoke with members of the SLV Fair Board and encouraged them to apply for a sales tax grant and recruit more members from Saguache County.

Lynn Zimmer and Wendi Maez - CO-Administrators:

- Report from Tom Blunt, County Veteran’s Officer, for the Veteran’s monthly report office was signed.
- A letter was sent to Mr. Floyd Jaramillo along with the original letter thanking him for his interest in the Veteran’s position, but that another person was hired.
- Zimmer went over the amounts for the SLV BOCC budget that Carol Osborn Secretary for the SLV Board of County Commissioners, had posted and they matched the numbers we had in our budgets.

<p>Spearman moved to adopt the State of Colorado Flag Policy. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.</p>

- Presented a Colorado Flag policy regarding the State of Colorado Flag per Colorado Governor Ritter, which will need to adopt to go along with the Federal policies.
- Maez and Zimmer will be attending a Southern District Administrators meeting in Walsenburg on March 28.
- A letter was sent to Karen Hoffner addressing the SLV Fair Board appointments. We also told her that the budget concerns could be addressed when she meets with the Board on the March 18th. The SLV Fair Board did submit a sales tax grant request.

- Maez made a call to the Gunnison Metro Recreation District about the letter they mailed to the Board. Gunnison Metro District would like to remove the Saguache County portion out of their district, since they only provide a TV tower for the folks in Sargents and it costs more than they received in taxes. Attorney Gibbons will get a full accounting of costs to maintain the tower and administer the money collected.
- 24 Sales Tax Grant requests have been received, and will be reviewed. Requests will be given to the Board during the March 18th meeting.
- A proposal was received from Julia McCrae, an antique appraiser from Taos, NM. This proposal included her prices and travel expenses. She would like a list of items to be appraised. The museum does not own everything on display as some of it is on loan. Joseph will talk to the museum to get a list. The value of items on loan should be set by the owner. The library has a list of items.

Break

Wendi Maez - Land Use Administrator

- Received a letter from Cory Myers - M&G Farms concerning the possibility of a variance for the erection of 2 new grain bins. The new bins will be placed in the general area of where the older existing bins are located. The issue is whether or not they would need a variance because they are only 12.5 feet from the Co. Rd. 51. The LDC requires that the setback from any road way be 25 feet. Maez and Arredondo will do a site visit.
- The March 6th - Center Post Dispatch had a public notice concerning Lexam's permit for wells 5&6, which is scheduled for hearing on: Monday March 31 and Tuesday April 1, 2008 - 9am - in Denver. "Any interested party desiring to protest the granting of the application should file with the COGCC a written protest or intervention no later than March 17, 2008." The Board discussed the various reply options at length and worked on drafting a letter.
- Signed the MOU with the USFS from Andrew Archuleta.
- BLM has officially published notice of the Oil and Gas lease/sale. It has been placed on the agenda on 3/18 for discussion under Land Use time.
- Maez met with FEMA from Denver concerning flood management for Saguache County. Saguache County does not participate in FEMA so county residents are not eligible for FEMA assistance if assistance is needed. Maez will present more information on this at the next meeting.

Marcus Connelly – Saguache Town Planning Commission:

Presented an idea for creating a County directory, he brought an example of a directory from Custer County.

Lynne Thompson - Court Clerk

<p>Spearman moved to approved up to \$300.00 for improvements to the third floor bathroom. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.</p>
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Thompson would like to upgrade the bathroom fixtures and flooring, as it is in bad repair. The costs would be approximately \$200.00 - \$250.00.

Melinda Myers – Tourism Council report:

- Wednesday, March 5th the Saguache County Tourism Council interviewed the two candidates for webmaster. Our recommendations are as follows:
 - A. Strijek Design
 - very professional and competent
 - would do an excellent job artistically
 - no experience with government websites
 - would be sub-contracting a lot of the work (hosting)
 - open ended bid, making it hard to compare pricing
 - had some issues around ownership of design work
 - only two people to rely on, service could be interrupted
 - had excellent knowledge of website administration(i.e. Optimization, key words, and optional features, though some would depend on who was the host)
 - B. WSB Computer Services
 - very professional with a history of good service
 - has experience with government websites
 - could handle the whole package (hosting)
 - no issues around ownership – county would own everything
 - no worries about service loss due to adequate staff and infrastructure
 - artwork tends to be more utilitarian, but Kenny is willing to import anything we give him.
 - Bid is a known quantity and very reasonable

Our recommendation is to go with WSB as they are a better fit for the entire scope of the project.

- Work on the Guide continues and ads are coming in all the time.
- March 6th was the San Luis Valley Tourism Conference in Alamosa. Chuck Tidd and Melinda Myers attended and shared a table with Alamosa Tourism. We sold ads in both Guides and have partnered to promote each other Guides and offer a discount for ads placed in both. The Conference was informational and good networking happened.
- Tidd and Myers joined the new San Luis Valley Tourism Council to represent and promote Saguache County and the Valley.

Mike Norris – Sheriff:

Saguache Sheriff's office is expecting delivery of two new police vehicles soon.

Jail Tour

Adjourned for lunch at 12:00 P.M.

Work Session - Chella Coleman - Housing Director

Apartment inspections – 1 HOUR

Reconvened at 1:47 P.M.

Continued work on letter to COGCC about Lexam wells #5.

Pace moved to send a letter of protest to Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission for the permit extension on Lexam wells #5 and #6. Joseph seconded the motion. The vote was two Ayes and one Nay.

Website/Webmaster interviews

A. Claudia Strijek – Strijek Design:

Presented examples of work – print and video and answered questions.

B. Kenny Bertin – WSB Computer Services:

Explained what the bid covered, including the hosting. Samples of work can be viewed on the web.

Joseph moved to approve the bid from WSB Computer Services for web hosting and web mastering the Saguache County website for up to \$10,000 plus \$240 for hosting fee. Spearman seconded the motion. The vote was three Ayes.

Joseph moved to adjourn at 4:05 P.M. Spearman seconded. The vote was three Ayes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Melinda Myers Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners

Minutes Approved March 18, 2008

Chairman of the Board

Attest

Commissioner

Commissioner